

**Quarterly Issues and Programming Report
January 2010 thru March 2010**

WCTX/MyTV9

1. Community Issues
2. Health
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Community Issues:

January:

01/03/10: News Channel 8 at 10pm - :25

"Community Dining Room"

The first Sunday dinner of the year was served to dozens at the community dining room in Branford today. For the second year in a row, the Madison Avenue salon provided the service. Customers at the salon made donations which were matched by the community for greater new haven.... Folks at the salon say that the monetary donations are only half the effort. The community dining room serves families in need along Connecticut's shoreline.

01/15/10: News Channel 8 at 10pm - :20

"Haiti/Bpt Relief"

The city of Bridgeport also has a large Haitian population. Today Mayor Bill Finch called a special meeting to bring together members of the city's growing Haitian community with organizations like the Red Cross and Save the Children. News Channel 8 also learned today of a Bridgeport police officer with family in Haiti, who's taking time off his job here to do what he can to help there.

01/18/10: News Channel 8 at 7am - :30

"MLK Day"

Several communities are honoring Doctor Martin Luther King Junior in many different ways today. In New Haven, the Wexler Grant Community School is holding its annual MLK Conference starting at 830 this morning. It will feature workshops for children and adults along with entertainment and food. The Waterbury youth health service corps is holding its annual MLK day of service. They'll be distributing lunches, and winter items for the homeless at Waterbury Baptist ministries.. on west main street from 10 to 11. And stamford is holding it's "the dream in our time celebration." The celebration will follow the annual Martin Luther King Day March which ends at the Yearwood Center on Fairfield Avenue in Stamford. That is happening from noon to one.

February:

2/12/10: News Channel 8 at 10pm - :20

"FOOD PANTRY"

Food pantries around the state are trying to keep up with growing demand. Normally at this time of the year the need for food slows...not the case this year. Many families are having to choose between heat and food. With pending layoffs in southeastern Connecticut the Salvation Army in New London expects to see a rise in clients. Roughly we'll do about 80 families a month and in January it goes down a bit perhaps sixty families a month but we're seeing now every month we're adding perhaps additional twenty clients a month of new people who haven't come here before. The Salvation Army and other pantries say they have been able to keep up with the demand because of the generosity of the community.

2/15/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 7am - :35

"GUARDIAN ANGELS"

New Haven's Guardian Angels are branching out. They have a new troop patrolling the streets of the Elm City today. About a dozen Angels graduated this weekend. Yesterday they were out on their first patrol this time in Fairhaven. The Angels want to make an immediate impact. That outreach is being greeted warmly, some hoping they can shake the area's negative reputation. Fair Haven has always been a neighborhood that was pointed out to us. We need to be in Fair Haven, we need to be in Fair Haven. They might get a little challenge but when people unite. When you start something, everybody gets together, I think it works out. They should come around everyday to build the community. So people feel safe. The guardian angels first began patrolling in the Edgewood park neighborhood a couple of years ago. Now their expanding in New Haven and Connecticut. They'll be recruiting in East Norwalk today.

02/23/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 7am - :20

"Free Pancake Day"

Before you fill up on coffee and donuts this morning remember Today is Free Pancake day... I-Hop is giving away free flap-jacks today. This marks the events fifth year... that helps raise more than 1.75 million dollars for the Children's miracle network and other local charities.

2/27/10: News Channel 8 at 10pm - :35

"MIDDLETOWN VICTIMS MEMORIAL"

Massive devastation brings a Middletown community together for the first time at a special memorial at St. Mary's Church Saturday morning. Bag pipe music fills the air saluting the six pipe fitters killed in an explosion while clearing lines at the Kleen Energy Systems plant February 7th. Political dignitaries, family, friends; filled the Catholic Church...everyone too overcome with emotion to speak to us. A federal safety investigator said a volatile natural gas and air mixture large enough to fill a professional basketball arena had accumulated in tight quarters before the explosion. City police and fire officials say they have completed their search for evidence into the investigation....but OSHA and the US Chemical Safety board will remain on site to continue theirs.

March:

03/06/10: News Channel 8 at 10pm - :20

"Brain Cancer Fundraiser"

More than 300 Cheerleaders and Gymnasts came out to raise money for an 11-year old boy battling brain cancer. The Spirit all Stars of Hamden and champion all stars of Danbury held an exhibition at Branford High school to raise money for Jaxxon Reed. This marks the second year that the groups have worked together for the cause.

03/16/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 7a - :20

"Milford Teens Fundraiser"

A fundraiser continues today in Milford to help the family of the brother and sister killed in a car crash. It's going on at Conte's Restaurant on the Boston Post Road. Friends of 19-year- old Paul and 15- year old Alexa Heron say this will raise money to help the family cover funeral costs. The siblings died earlier this month when their car hit a utility pole. Organizers designed t-shirts... and are selling them. The restaurant's fundraiser started last night.

03/24/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 7am - :30

"Kick Butts Campaign"

We're talking about kicking the smoking habit on what is the 15th annual "Kick Butts Day." It is national "Kick Butts Day". Teenagers across Connecticut will be taking part in events today doing things like displaying cut-out body silhouettes with facts about smoking cigarettes. They'll

be signing commitments to avoid tobacco products and posting those on a pledge wall. It's all to get teenagers to stop smoking or prevent them from starting altogether. Kick Butts Day is about getting kids to get active about their health and there are more than two-thousand events planned from coast to coast. But here in Connecticut, the push is on for everyone to stop smoking. Legislation to help Medicaid patients is currently being considered in the General Assembly. Their rate of smoking is more than double that of the general population but we are one of just four states that does not help cover the cost of smoking cessation programs. If the bill passes, the state would help with things like counseling and over-the-counter medications and nicotine replacement. State employees already have those benefits.

Health:

January:

01/04/10: Good Morning Connecticut 7am - :22

"Heroin Guidebook"

A controversial guidebook released by New York City health officials is coming under fire. Its targeted towards heroin users and offers information on how to prepare drugs carefully and how to care for veins to avoid infection. The Drug Enforcement Administration calls it a -- "very disturbing..step-by-step instruction on how to inject a poison." But, a health official says the goal is to promote health and save lives.

01/18/10: Good Morning Connecticut 7am - :30

"Childhood Obesity"

Health experts say.. school-aged kids.. should be screened for obesity.. and sent to intensive behavior treatment if they need to lose weight. The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force says treating obese kids can help them lose weight, but that's only if it involves rigorous diet, activity and behavior counseling. Five years ago, the same panel found few benefits from pediatric obesity programs... But new studies have shown some success with the programs.

01/20/10: Good Morning Connecticut 7am - :25

"French Fry Oil"

Health news this morning... your french fries from your favorite fast food joint may be even more unhealthy than you think. Now a new study shows many restaurants use corn oil including McDonalds. Health Day dot com reports...Studies have shown corn oil contains large amounts of saturated fat... known to contribute to heart disease.. and linked to obesity. Of the restaurant fries studied... 7 out of 10 national chains used corn oil.. or a blend including some corn oil.

01/26/10: Good Morning Connecticut 7am - :30

"Not Enough Sleep Issues"

Health news this morning... feel like you're on an ongoing battle with fatigue? You aren't alone. One of the reasons for feeling tired may be the obvious... but feeling tired could be a sign of many other things. Not getting enough sleep... is a real problem for lots of people. The National Institutes of Health say 70 million people may be chronically sleep deprived. If you aren't eating enough you may also be running on empty... but this too may seem common sense. Eat right... Start your breakfast off right... include proteins and complex carbs. This is something you may not have thought of. Anemia. Its a leading cause of fatigue in women. Common iron deficiency can be fixed with iron suppliments and adding meat to your diet. Depression... another reason for feeling tired. You may think of it as an emotional disorder... but it includes physical symptoms. This may be contrary to what you think... but caffine overload may actually make you tired. It may help you stay alert... but at the same time too much can also bring you down.

February:

02/01/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 7am - :30

"Overweight Healthy"

We're warned of the health risks of being overweight very often. But this latest study goes against studies you've heard before. After 70, being overweight may actually be good for you. The Australian study finds adults over 70 are less likely to die over a 10-year period when compared to their normal-weight peers. This study was just published in the Journal of the American Geriatrics Society. The study suggests people who survive to age 70 in reasonable health... have a different set of risks and benefits associated with their amount of body fat when compared to younger people.

02/24/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 7am - :20

"New Haven Health Survey"

The results of a new health survey show the Health challenges that face the Elm city. The Community Alliance for Research and Engagement -- surveyed people who live in New Haven. They found higher rates of smoking, diabetes and high blood pressure... when compared to national averages. They'll be talking about the results tonight.. in a Community forum.

02/26/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 7am - :25

"Stroke and Marriage"

Health news this morning... a happy marriage may actually help men live longer. A new study shows single or unhappily married men run a greater chance of dying from a stroke... than those with good marriages. That's according to an Israeli study of more than 10-thousand men. All stroke factors considered... including age, obesity, smoking, and diabetes... single men had a 64 percent higher risk of fatal stroke than married men. So far researchers haven't found a real explanation for the effect of happiness on stroke mortality. But... researchers say happy relationships are associated with a higher likelihood of taking recommended measures against known stroke risk factors. For example... with a support system you're more likely to quit smoking... or loose weight.

March:

03/18/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 7am - :17

"Kraft Salt Cuts"

Hold the salt --- Kraft foods is cutting *salt levels* in its products by about 10-percent over the next two-years. Kraft is making the move to try to please 'health conscious' consumers. The change will affect more than one-thousand products and cut out more than **10-million pounds* of salt. Kraft joins a growing list of companies that have already cut sodium levels in recent years.

03/20/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 7am - :15

"Zocor Warning"

In health news this morning a warning for people taking Zocor. The F-D-A says the choslesterol-lowering medication could harm your muscles. Muscle damage is a risk with most drugs like Zocor... but Zocor can potentially cause a large amount of liver damage.

03/29/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 7am - :20

"Optimism and Immune System"

Having a sunny disposition may do more for you than get you through the day. New research suggests it may help you fight off infection. Researchers used first year Law students as guinea pigs injecting them with an antigen that would allow them to monitor their immune system's

response. They found when the students' expectations about law schools were high or low their immune system would follow.

Education:

January:

01/09/10: News Channel 8 at 10pm - :25

"School Cuts Wallingford"

Concerned parents packed a meeting today about proposed changes and cuts to the school budget in Wallingford. At Sheehan High School... parents expressed their feeling about how the new superintendent wants to restructure the educational system, particularly the elementary schools. From Building maintenance to adult education.... parents are worried how it would impact learning for their children. Parents have all kinds of questions about pick up and drop off, parking.. The school board says with higher costs something has to give... it says is considering the input they've received.

01/22/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 7am - :60

"Naugatuck Budget"

Concessions in Naugatuck will help close a nearly 1 point 5 million dollar deficit...and avoid layoffs in the school district. News Channel 8 was the only station with cameras rolling at last night's important Board of Education meeting. The Board of Education voted 7 to 1 to approve the concessions made by the teachers' union. The union agreed to two furlough days... and a deferred payment until 2011. School administrators gave four furlough days. The town was willing to give almost a million to the board with a few other concessions.

01/26/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 7am - :15

"College Gender Gap"

A new report finds the "gender gap" between college men and women has stopped growing. According to the Washington-based American Council on Education.... more men are now attending college and graduating with a bachelor's degree. This reverses the tendency of female undergraduates outnumbering men and outperforming them academically.

February:

02/04/10: News Channel 8 at 10pm - :30

"Branford Sports Cuts"

Branford's board of education is trying to save money at the expense of school sports programs. The board is looking at possibly cutting programs at Walsh Intermediate School. On the chopping block: boys and girl's basketball, baseball, and softball. Reportedly, the board is also proposing a 'pay for play' option for other sports not being cut.

02/17/10: Good Morning Connecticut - :30

"Buses and Seatbelts"

A renewed push at the state capitol to put seat belts on school buses. The effort comes a little more than a month after a Connecticut teen died in a school bus crash in Hartford. Today the parents of the 16 year old who died in that crash will show their support for mandating seatbelts in school buses. Vikas Parikh was in a school bus headed to a robotics competition last month when a car hit the bus... and the bus went down an embankment. Several students were injured, and the teen was killed. Right away, politicians said they would get to work on school bus safety legislation. Two bills are in the works.

02/17/10: News Channel 8 at 10pm - :30

"UCONN Students Rally"

UConn students rally in support of more funding for higher education. Today's rally at the State Capitol comes before a vote over a tuition increase proposal from UConn. The board of trustees is set to vote on the six-point-three-percent increase tomorrow. If approved... tuition for in state students at UConn would increase by more than 12-hundred dollars. Tuition for out of state students would increase by more than 22-hundred dollars.

02/22/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 7am - :20

"Obama Education"

President Obama wants states to do more to prepare high school students for college and careers. Tomorrow he meets with the nation's governors to address the issue. Obama says the nation wastes 3 point 7 billion dollars each year on lost productivity and education costs.

March:

03/01/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 7am - :27

"Race to the Top"

Connecticut lawmakers are trying to make sure Connecticut gets it's share of Education funding from the Federal "Race to the Top" Initiative. Members of the legislature's Education committee expect to offer bills in the coming weeks that would improve the state's chances of matching the goals of the federal education improvement initiative just 10 states may get funding in the first of possibly three rounds. Connecticut is looking for almost 200 million dollars over four years..

03/15/10: News Channel 8 at 10pm - :15

"New Haven School Tiers"

New Haven is turning the tables today giving out grades for city schools. The mayor and school leaders are hoping it means a better education - better atmosphere - for students and teachers. In short, the numeric grading system, it gives teachers and administrators freedom to change things that may help progress. Tier One and two schools, who are having academic success right now will have more freedoms, while Tier III schools will have more oversight. In terms of paying for all this Mayor Destefano had this to say to News Channel 8. "I think school change not only in New Haven but in all the major cities is an essential component in economic recovery. If that means we have to sacrifice in other service areas, if we have to sacrifice as taxpayers to make this happen, I'm going to stand anywhere I have to stand to sell this program to the people that live here." All 47 schools in the city will be tiered next fall.

03/20/10: News Channel 8 at 10pm - :25

"History Challenge"

In case you didn't know its National History Day. And today students across the state took their skills outside the classroom. They took part in a History Competition sponsored by the Connecticut Historical Society. More than 80 students in grades 6 through 12 faced off after researching a historical topic of their choice. Local historians and teachers judge the competition. The winner gets to go to the national history contest at the University of Maryland where they'll compete against 2-thousand other students.

Crime:

January:

01/09/10: News Channel 8 at 10pm - :25

"Jackson New Haven Violence"

The Reverend Jesse Jackson was in New Haven today talking about crime *and the economy. He spoke at the First Calvary Baptist Church on Dixwell Avenue. His message today focused heavily on the economy, and bailouts of financial institutions. Jackson says while the heads of big corporations were able to remain in power... inner cities have seen an increase in job losses, and a spike in street crime. Jackson appeared with Stamford Mayor Dan Malloy who is considering a run for governor.

01/12/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 7am - :20

"Hartford Crime Stats"

There is better news for the capitol city. Hartford is boasting new... lower crime stats. The police department says... according to *its* figures... major crime is down to historic lows. There was a sharp reduction in auto thefts and rapes in 2009 compared to 2008. But... there has been an increase in burglaries.

01/29/10: News Channel 8 at 10pm - :20

"Crime Lab Backlog Funds"

Federal stimulus money is helping to clear a backlog of DNA testing at the state's forensics lab. So far... nearly 2 million dollars has been used to pay for more than 10 workers. The lab has recently identified suspects in six sexual assault 'cold cases'... dating back to the 1990's. The goal is to eliminate the backlog by the end of the year.

February:

02/03/10: News Channel 8 at 10pm - :20

"DNA/Cold Case Suspect"

A New York man will be extradited to Connecticut to face charges he raped and murdered a Connecticut woman in 1986. Kevin Benefield will be back in Connecticut on February 17th. Benefield is suspected of killing Barbara Pelkey, a 30-year-old mother of four from Wallingford. He was arrested in December - four months after Kenneth Ireland was released from prison after serving 20 years. DNA proved that he didn't commit the crime.

02/19/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 7am - :20

"Good Samaritan Mugged"

Trying to do a good deed... a New Haven man got more than he bargained for...when he stopped to help a man he saw lying face down in the road. Police say the 25 year old man stopped his car just after midnight yesterday in the Edgewood neighborhood. When he walked up... the guy jumped up and stuck a gun in his face... and another man robbed him.

02/23/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 7am - :25

"Hartford Hit and Run"

This hit and run shocked the state and nation... now a man is set to do time for his crime. 33 year old Luis Negron cut a plea deal on manslaughter charges yesterday. The deal calls for up to 12 years in prison. It was two years ago when surveillance cameras watched as Negron hit 78 year old Angel Torres on a Hartford street... paralyzing him from the neck down. He died a year later. Negron had been facing up to 30 years in prison... on charges of manslaughter and evading responsibility.

02/24/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 7am - :25

"Waterbury Relief Agency Vandalized"

The search is on for the vandals who sprayed painted racial slurs on a Waterbury ministry. Someone wrote hate messages on the gates protecting the windows at "Reach-Out Ministry" on Baldwin Street. It happened some time between midnight and five yesterday morning. The

Reverend and his wife... who run the Christian church... are asking people to pray for the people who were so disrespectful. If you know anything about this crime you are asked to call Waterbury police.

March:

03/04/10: News Channel 8 at 10pm - :20

"East Lyme Burglaries"

There is a modern day Bonnie and Clyde of sorts in East Lyme. State police say 24-year old Eric Perkins seen on his facebook page and his 26 year old wife April McAdam-Perkins broke into three homes and a farm shed on the north end of town last fall. That's about the same times as a rash of unrelated burglaries in town. According to Eric Perkins brother the couple reportedly stole from home in East Lyme as well as Salem and Montville to pay for their recent wedding. State police have organized a task force to investigate all the burglaries and say more arrests are soon to come.

03/22/10: News Channel 8 at 10pm - :30

"Dead Dog in Woodbridge"

The discovery of a dead dog in Woodbridge has police investigating a heinous crime. The dog was found hanging from a tree, in a garbage bag along route 15. Animal Control and police investigators need to find out how and when the dog died... and why it was disposed of, in such a disturbing way. A resident -- who's house backs up to the Wilbur Cross Parkway in Orange, near exit 56 -- made the discovery over the weekend. When he called police, they opened the bag, and found clothing, syringes, needles, and the body of a young dog. The remains are now at the Veterinary School at UCONN, to determine how and when the dog died. Whether somebody was trying to send some kind of message with this is one of many questions that needs to be answered. The pictures of the dog are too graphic to show on television, but it is described as a black female pit bull, with a white chest, about one year old... and she had apparently had numerous litters. If you think you may know anything about this dog, District Animal Control is asking you to give them a call, at the number on your screen, (203) 389-5991.

03/25/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 7am - :27

"Morris Cove Safety"

New concerns about safety in a usually low crime section of New Haven. In the past few months, a string of burglaries, car break-ins, and an assault have moved people in the Morris Cove/Annex neighborhood to become more involved. They are organizing a block watch they held a meeting last night with police who say it could help turn a police force of a few hundred into thousands. NICOLLE YENTER/HOMEOWNER: I think it's very important, they are the first line of defense, obviously, police can't be everywhere. Gina Misbach/New Haven homeowner: It's usually a quiet, little community. You hear something happen, you want to see what's happening, and how we can help stop it. Officers recommend that the block watch designate a few people to send out emails to let neighbors know just what is going on.

Consumer Issues:

January:

01/13/10: News Channel 8 at 10pm - :25

"Bernies Closing"

Enfield-based electronics retailer "Bernie's" is reportedly struggling. That, according to the head of a Long Island-based buying group. "This Week In Consumer Electronics" reports... that Bernie's has pulled-out of it's deal with the "NATM Buying Corporation." It's also reported... that

top executives have left the retailer. Bernie's has a total of 15-stores -- 8 in Connecticut -- with the rest in Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

01/14/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 7am - :32

"Healthnet Breach"

The state of Connecticut is suing a major health insurer because of a security breach involving thousands of confidential medical records. The lawsuit claims -- "Health Net" learned that a portable computer disk drive containing secure information for approximately 446-thousand past and present Connecticut enrollees.... disappeared back in May 2009. The suit also charges that no notification to consumers even started until six months later. The company says; It is reviewing the lawsuit and will cooperate with the Attorney General. Health Net is also offering two years of free credit monitoring services to all impacted members

01/29/10: News Channel 8 at 10pm - :30

"Toyota Recall"

Word tonight that Toyota has begun shipping gas pedal parts to dealers for use in fixing the millions of cars and trucks recalled because of accelerators that could become stuck. Toyota tried today to address consumer's concerns about their massive recall but Connecticut's Attorney General says the Japanese car company isn't doing enough. Toyota says, they are moving quickly to correct the problem with their sticky gas pedal but they won't begin telling customers how to fix it until sometime next week. Attorney General Richard Blumenthal says his office has been flooded with phone calls. He says, Toyota's response isn't enough he says, they need to provide a test so drivers can find out if their cars are okay before drivers get behind the wheel and they need to fix consumers' cars before the ones sitting on the lot. Toyota says, they hope to have the repairs done in less than a month. For a list of the effected models visit our website -- www.wtnh.com.

February:

02/05/10: News Channel 8 at 10pm - :25

"Old Saybrook Doctor"

The troubles are mounting for a doctor in Old Saybrook. The door is still locked at Doctor Scott Houghton's office. He is now the focus of a state and federal investigation. The sign on the door has been changed from 'closed' to 'out to lunch.' On Tuesday... state and federal agents raided the office on Route one -- shutting it down for the day. While the investigation continues.... the state Department of Consumer protection has suspended Dr. Houghton's license to write prescriptions.

02/21/10: News Channel 8 at 10pm - :25

"New Credit Card Rules"

You'll spot the changes, the moment you open your next bill. Right there in black and white - the math you've been avoiding. By law, your bank MUST NOW spell out HOW LONG IT WILL TAKE YOU TO pay off your card. Say your balance is three-grand at 14 percent interest. With the minimum monthly payment... it'll take you a more than a decade! SOT Pamela Banks, Senior Policy Council, Consumers Union "What it means for consumers is that they will have the information they need in order to better manage their credit card." Here's what the credit card companies CAN'T DO under the new law: they can't move your due date to trick you into a late payment. They can't charge you for going over your limit unless you agree. They can't raise your interest rate without 45 days notice, and if they raise your rate for late payment, they've can't keep it high if you pay on time for six months. Those changes will cost the credit card companies an estimated \$50 billion dollars over the next five years. But there is room under the new rules to

get some of that money back. So here's what the card companies CAN do: Charge new fees, for things like paper statements, overseas transactions, even for not using your card often enough. They can also raise your minimum payment, and of course, raise your interest rate. Something they've been doing for months. Mike and Mindy Busch of Denver saw the rate on one credit card spike from 20 to 32 percent. "It's not fair because their taking our money like were allegedly high risk but we pay our bills every single month we don't we don't miss payments." Nessa Feddis, VP and Senior Council with American Bankers Association "I think there was a lot of frustration among a lot of customers and this is congress and the regulators responding to that frustration." Consumer groups say the law is a good first step in shielding customers from the more outrageous tactics of the credit card companies but those companies still have some tools left, so customers still need to be alert.

02/23/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 7am - :20

"Seafood Overpayment"

Listen up.. You may have overpaid at the grocery store. Connecticut authorities say consumers who buy several brands of frozen seafood are overpaying... because ice is making the packages heavier. The Consumer Protection Commissioner says inspectors removed nearly 850 packages of shrimp, scallops and other seafood from shelves in stores statewide. Apparently packages contained less seafood than the labels indicated.

02/24/10: News Channel 8 at 10pm - :20

"Hyundai Sonata Recall"

Toyota is not the only foreign car maker dealing with safety problems these days. Hyundai is recalling 47 thousand of its 2010 Sonatas... to replace front door latches. The South Korean automaker says... in rare cases that latches will not close properly. The voluntary recall... by the company and not the government... followed a handful of customer complaints.

March:

03/09/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 7am - :20

"Kids Bracelet Recall"

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission has announced its recalling baby bracelets and pacifier clips. Bracelets like this one made by Allreds Design are being recalled due to a lead hazard. Officials say the lead is toxic if eaten by kids and can cause serious health trouble.

03/12/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 7am - :20

"Baby Sling Recall"

We are watching a developing story affecting millions of parents. Baby slings made by Infantino are being recalled because they have been linked to three infant deaths. The Consumer Product Safety Commission issued warning last week saying babies can suffocate in them. Parents are being told to stop using them immediately for babies under four months. The Infantino company is offering a free replacement baby carrier, activity gym or shopping cart cover to any affected consumer.

03/16/10: News Channel 8 at 10pm - :20

"Honda Recall"

A massive recall is ordered by a Japanese automaker. Nope...it's not Toyota. Honda is recalling more than 400-thousand of its Odyssey minivan and Element trucks....due to bad brakes. The recall includes models from 2007 and 2008. Honda says problems with the braking system could make it more difficult for drivers to stop the vehicle... if the system is not fixed.

Government, Economy, & Law

January:

01/07/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 7am - :28

"IRS Poor Service"

The IRS is getting stretched too thin, according to a government watchdog and that means you may be out of luck if you need help with your taxes. 30 percent of callers to the IRS help line won't be able to get through to a human being. Callers lucky enough to get through will have to wait on hold an average of 12 minutes. The IRS says they've been overwhelmed with taxpayer calls about temporary tax breaks passed by Congress to help revive the economy.

01/12/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 7am - :40

"Distracted Driving"

Today the federal government is kicking off the *first* national non-profit organization dedicated to fighting the dangers of distracted driving. The Transportation Department will unveil "Focus Driven". Officials say the organization will not only raise awareness about distracted driving practices such as texting behind the wheel and drinking and driving. But it will also focus in on teen drivers. A new transportation study says Connecticut has room to improve it's transportation safety laws. And suggests the state should adopt a motorcycle helmet law.

01/27/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 7am - :20

"Economy Growth"

We're could see some signs of the economy picking up later today. A government report expected to show the economy grew four point five percent in the last three months of last year. Some economists predicting that growth as high as six percent...but we'll have to see when the report comes out later today. The experts point to the government stimulus as one reason for the improvement.

February:

02/03/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 7am – 1:20

"Free Health Care Clinic"

The Connecticut Convention center in Hartford is expected to be packed with thousands of people today taking advantage of a free health clinic. The clinic for the uninsured opens up at noon today. News Channel 8's Chris Velardi joins us live from Hartford with the details. For One day.. It'll be the largest Doctor's Office in America. Thousands of Volunteer health care specialists from doctors to dentists will be in Hartford today for the... **CARE** Clinic ... CARE stands for Communities are Responding Everyday. Today at the Connecticut Convention center there will be 75 exam rooms with more than 2-tons of medical supplies, and hundreds of antibiotics and H1n1 Vaccines ready to go. And all of it is free for anyone in Connecticut without Health Insurance. And they do it all with no government funding. They rely on volunteers and donations.

02/16/10: News Channel 8 at 10pm - :25

"Lamont Announcement"

He was the front runner among Democrats in the last Quinnipiac Poll for Governor...and tonight he is officially in the race. Greenwich millionaire businessman Ned Lamont was surrounded by supporters as he jumped in the race. He did it at the same spot where he launched his campaign for the senate in 2006. He says he has the know how to fix the state's big budget trouble and he left the door open to tax increases. Lamont once again says he will spend millions of his own cash just like he did in his run against Joe Lieberman.

02/23/10: News Channel 8 at 10pm - :25

“Rell Skips Governors Conference”

Governor Rell is defending her decision to skip the National Governor's Association meeting in Washington...with billions of federal dollars up for grabs...she was just about the only governor not to go. She got the royal treatment when she visited the Keigwin (KEG-win) Middle School in Middletown today...and she defended her decision not to go to Washington. Most of the nation's governors got to have dinner with the President and first lady last night following the day-long winter meeting of the National Governor's Association to talk about health care, education and stimulus money. Rell said today her time was better spent yesterday working on the state budget. "My priority is right here, we have a state budget that's out of balance, I'm working on a deficit mitigation plan. I had a leaders meeting scheduled that I needed to make sure that we were all together." And Rell says her office has applied for all the grants and notes the state has received two billion in federal stimulus funds.

02/25/10: News Channel 8 at 10pm - :25

“Chimp/Officer Testimony”

The Stamford police officer who shot and killed a rampaging chimpanzee appeals to lawmakers to change a state law. Frank Chiafari says the February 2009 shooting of Travis sent him into depression. He's asking the state to consider a bill allowing officers required to use deadly force on animals... to file workers' compensation claims. The twenty-five year veteran of the force explained in graphic detail how he was confronted by the raging chimp who had just attacked a woman and looked to be ready to attack him. "I have this woman...torn apart in front of me, the chimp jumps in the car with me, I came this close to being ripped apart myself. I had no choice but to shoot this thing and I don't even remember the gun going off...that's how I blocked this whole thing out of me." "I didn't know what 'Post Traumatic Stress' was before this. I used to hear about it, I didn't even know if I believed in it. I found out it is definitely a real thing. It changed me...had nightmares from this thing. I'd be walking in the mall, I'd see people, women without faces...that's how bad it got." The city of Stamford eventually did pay for Chiafari's doctor.

March:

03/18/10: News Channel 8 at 10pm – 1:39

“Gubernatorial Debate”

The race for the state's top spot is on. A crowded field of eight republican candidates took center stage in the first televised debate of the primary season. A Quinnipiac University poll released Thursday shows GOP front-runner Tom Foley with a commanding lead, with a second place tie between Lt. Governor Michael Fedele and Danbury Mayor Mark Boughton. One of the first issues talked about - how to cut three billion from the state budget. Candidates also addressed the alarming statement made earlier this week from the chief financial officer of United Technologies...specifically...the high cost of doing business in the state - and how it's cheaper to go elsewhere.

03/25/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 7am – 1:50

“Tanning Hearing”

The federal government may be turning up the heat on tanning salons all in an effort to keep you safe. Connecticut Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro is leading the charge on this. She wants the federal government to change their classification of tanning beds and designate them as a serious cancer risk. 30-million Americans go tanning every year more than two-million of them are teenagers but evidence increasingly shows tanning poses a health risk. In people under the age of 35 it's been linked to a 75-percent increase in the risk of melanoma the deadliest form of skin cancer. The F-D-A still classifies them as class 1 medical devices that's for the least damaging substances.. Delauro wants that changed. "There is no doubt that tanning devices pose a considerable health threat to the American public, and especially to the millions of young women and adolescent girls who use them on a regular basis. In fact, melanoma rates for young women,

ages 15 to 30 have tripled over the past 35 years and it is now the second most common cancer in the U-S in women ages 20 to 29." If the health risks don't make you hesitate maybe the money will now tanning will cost you more. Included in the president's new health care package a ten-percent tax on those using indoor tanning services. That will go into effect on July 1st and is expected to generate 2-point-7 billion over the next ten years.

03/29/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 7am - :17

"Billy's Law"

The parents of a missing Waterbury man.. will meet with Connecticut Senator Joe Lieberman today. They are pushing a bill called "Billy's Law", named after Billy Smolinski. The bill aims to help find missing adults or identify their remains. Smolinski disappeared back in August of 2004 and hasn't been seen since.